

**Washington, DC** - Today, the House of Representatives rejected HR 3997, the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008, by a vote of 205-228.

"Our economy was driven into a ditch," said Congressman Charles Gonzalez (TX-20), who voted for the proposal, "and our first priority was to get it out of that ditch. There will be time to deal with the reckless driver soon enough, but we cannot let the American people suffer for the mistakes of others."

"It is true that the markets could recover on their own in the long run, but that's not good enough. As John Maynard Keynes once said, 'In the long run we are all dead.' I would consider it irresponsible of me to risk the security of my constituents' retirement plans, mortgages, or jobs by wagering that San Antonians could get by with no government action," Gonzalez added.

"Over the next few days, I will be conferring with San Antonio's financial leaders and with my colleagues in the House," said Gonzalez, "to monitor how this legislative decision will affect the people of the 20th District and to determine what I can do to protect my constituents' savings and homes."

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